Table of Contents

Apprenticeships and Employment ................................................................. 4
Australian Jobs 2015 .................................................................................. 4
Want to be an electrician? ......................................................................... 4
Where do university graduates go? .......................................................... 4
Australian Defence Force ........................................................................ 5
Australian Defence Force (ADF) Job Finder ........................................... 5
Defence Work Experience Program .......................................................... 5
Career Exploration .................................................................................... 6
Career Quiz app ......................................................................................... 6
How to investigate jobs ............................................................................ 6
The High Five of career development ..................................................... 7
Use the mini career explorer to start your career exploration ................... 8
Course and Institution Updates ................................................................. 9
Bonded Medical Places (BMP) Scheme expected to expand .................. 9
Brisbane School of Hairdressing/Brisbane School of Beauty 2015 Winter School ............ 9
Christian Heritage College (CHC) ............................................................ 9
Day in the Life of a Designer workshop .................................................. 9
Explore a career as a flight attendant at Aviation Australia ....................... 10
Griffith University updates ................................................................... 10
Head Start at the University of Southern Queensland (USQ) .................... 10
Information for future pilots ................................................................... 11
InspireU Junior Engineering for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students .......... 11
New Agriculture degree at CQUniversity (CQU) ...................................... 11
Queensland University of Technology (QUT) programs and events .............. 11
Selected career/course events to 12 June 2015 ......................................... 12
Snippets from the Bond University ............................................................ 14
Study to be an enrolled nurse at the Mater ............................................. 14
Updates from the Australian Catholic University (ACU) ............................ 15
What foreign languages can I study at university? ................................... 15
Financial Assistance and Scholarships .................................................... 16
St Andrew’s Scholars Program ................................................................. 16
VET FEE-HELP reforms ........................................................................ 16
Gap Year Program News ......................................................................... 17
African Conservation Experience (ACE) for Gap Year students .................................................. 17
Selected gap year program information sessions up to 12 June 2015 ....................................... 17
Occupational Information .................................................................................................................. 18
‘The Job I Love’ website ................................................................................................................ 18
Free career booklets ....................................................................................................................... 18
Is your future on track? Explore rail careers .................................................................................. 18
Project manager – an occupation for all industries ........................................................................ 18
QTIC Tourism and Hospitality Career Guide .................................................................................. 19
Queensland Police Recruiting seminars ......................................................................................... 19
What makes a great engineer? .......................................................................................................... 19
Open Days, Expos and Career Markets .......................................................................................... 20
Brisbane Careers and Employment Expo next week .................................................................... 20
Design College Australia Information Session .............................................................................. 20
Queensland School of Film and TV (QSFT) Open Day and Info Evening .................................... 20
TAFE Queensland East Coast Open Days ....................................................................................... 20
TAFE Queensland South West Open House events ....................................................................... 20
QTAC and Tertiary Entry ................................................................................................................ 22
ATARs and OPs ................................................................................................................................. 22
Pathways to tertiary study .............................................................................................................. 22
Read the latest Student Connect magazine and win an iPad Air ............................................... 23
Which is the best university? .......................................................................................................... 23
Study Skills ...................................................................................................................................... 25
Top 10 tips for study success for high school and university students ........................................ 25
Australian Jobs 2015

Want to know the employment trends for jobs you are interested in? The Australian Jobs 2015 booklet provides information about employment trends by location, age, industry and occupation. It will help you understand where the jobs are and what employers look for when recruiting. It highlights the changes in the Australian labour market, noting that large numbers of new jobs are expected to be created over the next five year. It also provides a guide to where these jobs are likely to be. Download the booklet at https://docs.employment.gov.au/documents/australian-jobs-2015-publication.

Want to be an electrician?

Electro Group Training and Apprenticeships is a group training company that specialises in training people for the electrical industry. It employs and monitors the training of electrical apprentices. It also offers a career start course (Certificate II in Electrotechnology - Career Start) to prepare students for an apprenticeship. For more information, visit https://www.electrogroup.com.au/index.php.

Where do university graduates go?

Did you know that 80.07% of new nursing graduates were in full-time employment four months after graduating in 2013? You can read about the destinations and starting salaries of other recent graduates from a broad range of study areas in the ‘Where grads go’ handout that can be downloaded at http://www.graduatecareers.com.au/research/researchreports/wheregradsogo/. A more comprehensive version of this information can be found in the 2014 GradStats report at http://www.graduatecareers.com.au/research/researchreports/gradstats/.
Australian Defence Force (ADF) Job Finder

If you are interested in joining the ADF but find it difficult to choose an ADF job, use the Job Finder on the home page at http://www.defencejobs.gov.au/ to get you started. This is a short questionnaire that gathers information about you and then comes up with ADF job suggestions.

Defence Work Experience Program

This program gives young people an opportunity to experience the Defence Force before making decisions about joining. To find out what is available, visit http://www.defence.gov.au/workexperience/default.htm (click on ‘Placements’ and ‘Qld’).
Career Quiz app

The Career Quiz on the Job Outlook website at http://joboutlook.gov.au/careerquiz.aspx can now be downloaded as a free app from the iTunes store or Google Play. The quiz is useful for people who haven’t a clue about how to start exploring their career options.

How to investigate jobs

An important part of the career decision-making process is investigating the occupations in which you are interested. There are many sources of career information available. The following are ideas you can use to get you started.

Read about jobs

- myfuture http://www.myfuture.edu.au

Talk to people

- Your parents and relatives can tell you about jobs they have had. Also, as they know you better than most other people, they may be able to help you decide on occupations that may suit you.
- Develop your own information ‘network’: family friends, neighbours, sports coaches, friends’ parents, people you work with, etc. These people all have knowledge about the world of work and are generally happy to share information with you.
- People who currently do the job obviously can help. Don’t be too shy to approach these people even if you don’t know them – most don’t mind talking about their own work as long as you are polite, show interest in their work, come prepared with questions, and don’t take up too much of their time.
- Employers can often give you a full picture of how the job you are interested in fits into their organisation as a whole. Ask them about educational requirements, employment opportunities and conditions of work but remember that these aspects of the job may vary among employers.
• Providers of courses should be able to tell you about the occupations their courses prepare you for.

Go and see

• Career markets and expos – these commence in May each year and are held throughout Queensland.
• The Tertiary Study Expo (TSXPO) in Brisbane in July each year. Your career counsellor/guidance officer may have free entry passes.
• University and college open days – university open days usually occur in July and August each year. Private college open days occur throughout the year. Take a generic list of questions to all open days so you can compare similar information while still asking institution specific questions.
• Work observation or work shadowing – follow a worker around for a day.

Experience

• The only way of knowing for certain if you like a job is to try it. This may be possible through work experience or work sampling organised through your school, or by holiday or part-time jobs.
• Undertaking a vocational education course while you are at school is another way of experiencing the tasks and skills required in a specific occupation or industry.

The High Five of career development

Change is constant - The world of work is always changing. You also change as you develop and experience life. Don’t be afraid of change; accept it and use it as an opportunity.

Know yourself and follow your heart - One of the most important skills in career management is self-awareness – knowing your interests, abilities, values, aspirations and the things/people that influence you. Start your job ideas list with jobs you would most like (your dream jobs) even if they are currently unrealistic. Exploring these jobs can get you started and lead to other jobs you hadn’t thought of.

Focus on the journey - It is good to have goals – short and long term. However, we should not be so focused on these that we miss opportunities that may emerge along the way.

Learning is ongoing - Learning doesn’t stop just because you finish your course and get a job. Just as change is constant so is the need to keep up to speed with new technologies, new methods of practice and emerging trends in your career field.

Access your allies - These are the people who can help and support you during your career journey. They can include your school guidance officer/counsellor, teachers, your family and friends, sport coaches and others within your social network. You can learn much from other people’s experiences.
This item is adapted from The Real Game (http://www.realgame.esa.edu.au/).

**Use the mini career explorer to start your career exploration**

The mini career explorer on the myfuture website at http://www.myfuture.edu.au/MiniCareerExplorer/index.html is a quick, interactive and fun instrument that will help you come up with career ideas. Once you have developed some ideas, you can read about them on the myfuture site.
Bonded Medical Places (BMP) Scheme expected to expand

This scheme provides funding for additional Commonwealth supported medical school places each year at Australian medical schools. Twenty-five percent of places currently come under this scheme. However, as part of the 2015 Budget, the BMP Scheme is expected to be enlarged from the 2016 academic year.

Under the BMP Scheme recipients are required to work in medical skill shortage areas for a period equal to the length of their medical course. The application and selection process for the scheme is the responsibility of the universities and usually takes place after an application to study medicine has been lodged. In the case of the University of Queensland, Year 12 students can apply for a Bonded Medical Place when they apply for the Doctor of Medicine (MD) Provisional Entry for School-Leavers (Bonded medical Places) through QTAC. An information booklet about the BMP Scheme can be downloaded at http://www.health.gov.au/bmpscheme.

Brisbane School of Hairdressing/Brisbane School of Beauty 2015 Winter School

The Winter School will be held on 29 and 30 June and 1 July 2015. This event will be a good ‘taster’ for students considering a career in the personal services industry, especially hairdressing and beauty therapy. Interested? Find out more at http://www.brishair.com.au/news/.

Christian Heritage College (CHC)

CHC is a Christian higher education institution that offers accredited bachelor degrees in business, education, humanities, social science and ministry. The college is located in Mansfield, Brisbane. Applications to CHC are through QTAC. HECS-HELP and FEE-HELP are available to eligible students. The college will hold its open day on 22 August 2015. For more information, visit http://chc.edu.au/index.php.

Day in the Life of a Designer workshop

CATC Design School, which offers diploma courses in graphic design, interior design and photography, will hold this workshop on Saturday 4 July 2015 at its Brisbane campus. This event will provide an opportunity to experience life as a designer and to check out the facilities and courses at the school. Visit http://www.catc.edu.au/events to register.
Explore a career as a flight attendant at Aviation Australia

Aviation Australia, with campuses in Brisbane and Cairns, provides programs in Aircraft Maintenance Engineering Training and Flight Attendant Training. The Brisbane campus will hold a flight attendant career day on Saturday 23 May 2015. For more information and to book a place, see [http://www.aviationaustralia.aero/flightattendant/Open-Night.php](http://www.aviationaustralia.aero/flightattendant/Open-Night.php).

Griffith University updates

On-campus accommodation at Griffith – The residential colleges located on the Nathan and Mt Gravatt campuses are available for students attending Nathan, Mt Gravatt and South Bank campuses. Accommodation at the Gold Coast campus is operated by Griffith University Village. The accommodation website at [http://www.griffith.edu.au/accommodation](http://www.griffith.edu.au/accommodation) provides information about accommodation scholarships, living on campus, the support and activities available for college residents and off-campus accommodation options.

Want to study engineering but don’t have the prerequisites? - Griffith University offers a pathway into its engineering courses through the Aptitude for Engineering Assessment (AEA) examination. Registrations to sit the exam will open in June 2015 for enrolment in 2016. The exam will be held on 19 September 2015 in Brisbane, the Gold Coast and selected regional centres. Visit [http://www.griffith.edu.au/engineering-information-technology/griffith-school-engineering/future-students/aptitude-engineering-assessment](http://www.griffith.edu.au/engineering-information-technology/griffith-school-engineering/future-students/aptitude-engineering-assessment) for more information.

Mathematics A and B Bridging Course – This is a self-paced modular Maths Bridging Course which runs on Monday nights from 6 – 9 pm, on the Gold Coast campus. Participants can start the course on any Monday night from 23 February – 16 November 2015. Visit [http://www.griffith.edu.au/griffith-sciences/future-students/bridging-short-courses](http://www.griffith.edu.au/griffith-sciences/future-students/bridging-short-courses) for details.


Head Start at the University of Southern Queensland (USQ)

USQ’s Head Start program gives Year 11 and 12 students an opportunity to study university subjects while still at school. In addition the program provides:

- Guaranteed entry into a related USQ program on successful completion of a Head Start subject
- Fee exemption (the first Head Start course/subject is free)
- Two points towards the Queensland Certificate of Education
- Academic credit towards a USQ degree.
The Head Start program is offered online and at Toowoomba, Springfield, Ipswich and Fraser Coast campuses. Some subjects are offered at USQ’s Maryborough Hub. Applications for Semester two are now open and will close on 29 June 2015. Find out more at http://www.usq.edu.au/headstart.

Information for future pilots

PATS (Pilot Aptitude Training Systems) is a private organisation that prepares people for aptitude tests and interviews that are used by the Australian Defence Force and airline pilot cadetships (e.g. Jetstar, Cathay Pacific and Rex). For more information see http://www.pilotaptitude.com/.

InspireU Junior Engineering for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students

The University of Queensland will hold this camp for students in Years 9 and 10. It will give students an opportunity to meet young engineers and be involved in laboratory experiences, mini lectures and site visits. The camp will be held from 7 – 10 July 2015. Applications close on 5 June 2015. Applications are available at http://www.atsis.uq.edu.au/inspireu-junior-engineering.

New Agriculture degree at CQUniversity (CQU)

CQU recently launched its new B Agriculture, to commence in Semester one 2016. Graduates of this degree should be able to fill roles across grazing, cropping and horticulture, as well as support services such as agricultural finance, business and consultancy. The course has close ties with industry in its development and delivery. Students will experience a combination of face-to-face delivery at the Bundaberg and Rockhampton campuses and the Emerald Agricultural College and industry placements. An entry pathway through a Diploma of Agriculture has been planned for this course. Details of the course will be on the CQU website at https://www.cqu.edu.au/ later in the year.

Queensland University of Technology (QUT) programs and events

Bridging courses in Chemistry, Maths B and Physics - These courses help students who haven’t studied specific subjects at school to meet the assumed knowledge requirements for QUT courses and may also meet prerequisite subjects for other institutions (check with the relevant institution). Registrations for the next intake for Chemistry and Maths B courses close on Wednesday 17 June 2015 and Tuesday 7 July 2015 respectively. Students can enrol in the Physics course anytime and complete it online. Visit https://www.qut.edu.au/science-engineering/courses-and-study/bridging-programs for details.

QUT Vice-Chancellor's science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) camp – Applications are now open for this event which will be held 27 September – 2
October 2015. To be eligible students must be in Year 11 and be studying and receiving a VHA in at least one of:

- a science subject (Physics, Chemistry, Earth and Environmental, or Biology)
- Mathematics B or C
- Engineering Technology
- Computer Science.


**QUT Power of Engineering** – This is a one-day program for female students in Years 9 and 10. It will be held on 4 August 2015 at the Gardens Point campus. The event will give participating girls the chance to experience first-hand what an engineering career is like. Details can be accessed at [https://www.qut.edu.au/study/undergraduate-study/do-you-advise-school-students/news-and-events/news?news-id=87176](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/undergraduate-study/do-you-advise-school-students/news-and-events/news?news-id=87176). Contact your science teacher or guidance officer/counsellor if you are interested in attending this event as registrations are made through your school.

**Selected career/course events to 12 June 2015**

The following events are mentioned in this newsletter and may have been included in previous newsletters.

**May**


20 - Queensland University of Technology Parent Information Seminar at the Caboolture campus [https://www.qut.edu.au/study/events](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/events)


20 – Griffith University Pathways to Medicine information evening at the Gold Coast campus [http://www.griffith.edu.au/events/information-evenings](http://www.griffith.edu.au/events/information-evenings)


21 – University of Southern Queensland Study Options Evening at the Ipswich Campus [https://www.usq.edu.au/news-events/event-search](https://www.usq.edu.au/news-events/event-search)


**June**

1 - Young Leaders July Program at Trinity College, the University of Melbourne applications close [http://www.trinity.unimelb.edu.au/learning/trinity-institute/young-leaders/young-leaders-july-program.html](http://www.trinity.unimelb.edu.au/learning/trinity-institute/young-leaders/young-leaders-july-program.html)

2 - Gladstone Careers Expo [https://gladstoneshs.eq.edu.au/Calendarandnews/Eventcalendar/Pages/Eventcalendar.aspx](https://gladstoneshs.eq.edu.au/Calendarandnews/Eventcalendar/Pages/Eventcalendar.aspx)
3 - Capricorn Careers Expo
https://s2jalliance.eq.edu.au/Programsandactivities/Capricorncareersexpo/Pages/Capricorncareersexpo.aspx

3 - Peter Doherty Awards for Excellence in STEM Education nominations close

3 - University of Queensland Interaction Design Exhibit
http://www.itee.uq.edu.au/interaction-design

4 - CQUniversity Mid-Year Online Information Session
https://www.cqu.edu.au/calendar/event-items/graduation/cqu-online-information-session

4 - Study in Canada Night at St Peters Lutheran College, Indooroopilly
https://eventbrite.com/event/16670540034/

5 - Inspire U Health Sciences Camp for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Students applications close

5 - UMAT registrations close http://umat.acer.edu.au

9 - The Big Day In conference at Griffith University, Gold Coast campus

10 - Queensland School of Film and Television (QSFT) Info Evening
http://www.qsft.qld.edu.au/

12 - The USQ McGregor Winter School applications close

Snippets from the Bond University

Go on a Bond campus tour - A personalised campus tour for you and your family and friends can be organised by emailing campustours@bond.edu.au or phoning 07 5595 1067. See http://bond.edu.au/future-students/study-bond/see-for-yourself/campus-tours for more information.

Scholarships - Bond scholarships for current Year 12 students are now open. This includes Vice-Chancellor’s Elite Scholarships, Excellence Scholarships, Indigenous scholarships and Collegiate Scholarships. Applications must be submitted online by the 31 July 2015. See http://bond.edu.au/future-students/study-bond/how-apply/scholarships for details.

Applying to Bond - Apply online directly to Bond for all courses except medicine. Start your application at https://apply.bond.edu.au/. Apply for medicine through QTAC by early February 2016.

Study to be an enrolled nurse at the Mater
Mater Education offers a Diploma of Nursing. The course is delivered on a full-time or part-time basis. It is a full-fee course and VET FEE-HELP is available to eligible students. Year 12 students apply directly to Mater Education, not through QTAC. Courses commence in February and July. Students who successfully complete the Diploma of Nursing through Mater Education are guaranteed up to one year’s credit towards the three-year Bachelor of Nursing at the University of Queensland and the Queensland University of Technology. See http://www.matereducation.com.au/ for more information and to download a brochure. It is anticipated that Mater will offer one Indigenous part scholarship and two refugee part scholarships in 2016. Contact Mater Education later in the year to confirm this.

**Updates from the Australian Catholic University (ACU)**

*Life-less-ordinary website* – This is a new ACU website designed to allow students to explore ACU’s courses, meet current students and keep on top of key dates. The site can be accessed at http://life-less-ordinary.acu.edu.au/. This website does not replace the main ACU website at http://www.acu.edu.au/home.


**What foreign languages can I study at university?**

Students studying at Griffith University, Queensland University of Technology and the University of Queensland can study a large range of languages. If the language you want to study is not available at your own university you can study it at another university through the Brisbane Universities Languages Alliance (BULA). Languages available through BULA include Chinese, French, German, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Russian and Spanish. Visit [https://www.bula.edu.au/default.aspx](https://www.bula.edu.au/default.aspx) for more information about how BULA works, how to apply and language scholarships.
St Andrew’s Scholars Program

If you are thinking of studying at a Sydney university, you may be interested in applying for this residential scholarship program. St Andrew’s College is a residential college at the University of Sydney. Students attending other Sydney universities also live at the college. The Scholars Program is financial support of $25 000 per year awarded for the duration of an undergraduate degree while the student is living in the college. Applications close on Tuesday 30 June 2015. Visit http://www.standrewscollege.edu.au/st-andrews-scholars/ for details.

VET FEE-HELP reforms

While the majority of VET training providers follow ethical practices in the recruitment of students, a few have recently been suspected of using unethical marketing strategies (e.g. using inducements of cash, iPads, etc. to get people to sign up to their courses they don’t need). From 1 April 2015, training providers who are accredited for VET FEE-HELP will be banned from offering enrolment inducements to students. A fact sheet to help you make informed choices about VET courses can be downloaded at https://education.gov.au/vet-fee-help-reforms (scroll down the page and click on ‘VET FEE-HELP loans for quality training’).
African Conservation Experience (ACE) for Gap Year students

ACE works with conservation projects in South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe and Mauritius. Project options include working in a wildlife care centre, having a wildlife veterinary experience or becoming a marine conservation volunteer. For more information about this organisation and its projects, see http://www.conservationafrica.net/Gap-Year-Students.

Selected gap year program information sessions up to 12 June 2015

May

- 21 – Camp America will be at the Cairns Careers and Employment Expo http://campamerica.com.au/events/
- 29 & 30 – Camp America will be at the Brisbane Careers and Employment Expo http://campamerica.com.au/events/

June

‘The Job I Love’ website

This website focuses on jobs in 12 different service industries, including business, fitness, community pharmacy, retail, hairdressing, outdoor recreation and floristry. The information provided for each industry includes the jobs available, the duties for each job and the training required for each job. The website can be accessed at http://thejobilove.com.au/.

Free career booklets

You can download the following booklets from the Graduate Opportunities website at http://www.graduateopportunities.com/free-downloads/career-info-booklets/. The booklets include a description of the jobs available in each industry, the training options available, case studies, links to industry websites and job search strategies.

- Careers in Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability
- Careers in Engineering
- Careers in the Environment
- Careers in Human Resources
- Careers in ICT
- Careers in Law
- Careers in Marketing
- Careers in Media & the Arts
- Careers in Nursing & Midwifery
- Careers in Science
- Careers in Social Work
- Careers in Teaching

Is your future on track? Explore rail careers


Project manager – an occupation for all industries

This occupation is known by several different titles, including Project administrator, Program manager and Contract administrator. The title can also be different in different industries e.g. Construction manager in the construction industry, Health
administrator in the health industry, Production manager in the manufacturing industry.

Project managers are responsible for ensuring that projects are designed and completed on time and within budget. They work in both the public and private sectors across all industries. Visit the Project Manager website at http://projectmanager.com.au/category/profiles/project/ to view project management profiles.

According to the Job Outlook website (http://joboutlook.gov.au/), employment for this occupation to November 2018 is expected to grow very strongly with the number of job openings expected to exceed 50,000. The skills required for the job include: self-discipline, time management, good communication skills, leadership skills, ability to work under pressure, financial awareness and analytical skills.

There are different levels of training available for this occupation, from VET qualifications (e.g. Certificate in Project Management) to post graduate qualifications (Graduate Certificate in Project Management, Graduate Diploma in Project Management, Master of Project Management). A good foundation for postgraduate courses would be a degree in Business, Commerce, Economics, Engineering, Regional and Town Planning or Information Technology. Some degrees that provide project management skills are specific to an industry e.g. B Construction Management, and B Hospitality Management.

**QTIC Tourism and Hospitality Career Guide**

The guide has been produced by the Queensland Tourism Industry Council (QTIC). It contains information on jobs directly and indirectly related to the industry. You can download it at https://www.qtic.com.au/resources/qtic-tourism-hospitality-careers-guide.

**Queensland Police Recruiting seminars**

If you are interested in exploring the career opportunities within the Queensland Police Service, you can attend a seminar. Seminars are held throughout the year. Queensland Police also have a stall at most career expos in Queensland. Visit http://www.policerecruit.qld.gov.au/seminars/ for dates and bookings.

**What makes a great engineer?**

Peter McCarthy has been involved in engineering for over 45 years. During this time he has learnt attributes that he believes make a great engineer. You can read about his list of attributes on the Engineering Link Group website at http://www.telg.com.au/what-makes-a-great-engineer/ and learn more about an engineering career.
Brisbane Careers and Employment Expo next week

A reminder that this expo will be held at the end of next week on Friday 29 and Saturday 30 May 2015 at the Brisbane Convention Exhibition Centre. Find out more from the website at http://careeremploymentexpo.com.au/.

Design College Australia Information Session

This college offers an accredited Advanced Diploma in Visual Communication within which students can specialise in graphic design or photography. An information session will be held from 6 - 8 pm on Wednesday 27 May 2015 at the college’s Brisbane campus in Fortitude Valley. Come along to learn more about the college and its courses. For more information about the event, see http://www.designcollege.com.au/content/design_college_events.html.

Queensland School of Film and TV (QSFT) Open Day and Info Evening


TAFE Queensland East Coast Open Days

TAFE Open Days will be held in June 2015 across the East Coast region, at Fraser Coast, Mooloolaba, Bundaberg, Nambour, Gympie and Maroochydore. These events will provide an opportunity to explore TAFE study options, check out the facilities, participate in activities, listen to entertainment and enjoy a sausage from the sausage sizzle. For details about these events and to register your interest, visit http://tafeeastcoast.edu.au/about-us/events/#.VVaf5vCFe-U.

TAFE Queensland South West Open House events

These events will be held from 3 – 6 pm on 19 May 2015 at Bundamba and 26 May 2015 in Toowoomba. The events are opportunities to find out what TAFE has to offer you. Throughout June 2015 TAFE information booths will be set up at local shopping
ATARs and OPs

All states in Australia, except Queensland, call their Year 12 tertiary entry score an Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR). The ATAR is a number between 0 and 99.95 (highest) with increments of 0.05. The Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) calculates an ATAR for OP students. This is used by interstate tertiary admissions centres for tertiary admissions purposes and within Queensland for greater discrimination of applicants for very competitive tertiary courses and sometimes to select applicants for scholarships.

Tables converting OPs to QTAC selection ranks and QTAC selection ranks to ATARs can be accessed from the QTAC website at http://www.qtac.edu.au/applications/apply-here/applying-interstate/year-12-conversion-tables/year-12-conversion-tables. Both of these tables are based on 2014 Year 12 results so can be used as a guide only. You can learn more about ATARs and how to obtain an ATAR statement from the Student Connect website at https://studentconnect.qcaa.qld.edu.au/12654.html.

Pathways to tertiary study

While an OP is still the most popular pathway to gaining entry to your preferred tertiary course, it is not the only pathway available in Queensland, especially if you don’t achieve your tertiary course goal straight after Year 12. Several tertiary institutions have web pages dedicated to the various pathways available.

- Australian Catholic University – Alternate entry http://www.acu.edu.au/study_at_acu/alternative_entry
- Griffith University - Pathways to Griffith http://www.griffith.edu.au/pathways
- James Cook University - Pathways to university http://www.jcu.edu.au/apply/pathways/
- Queensland University of Technology - Worried you won’t get into the course you want? https://www.qut.edu.au/study/applying/undergraduate-applications (scroll down and click on ‘Worried you won’t get into the course you want?’)
University of Queensland - Alternative pathways to entry
http://www.uq.edu.au/study/?page=1099
University of Southern Queensland - Pathway programs
http://www.usq.edu.au/study/degrees/pathway-programs
University of the Sunshine Coast - Entry pathways
http://www.usc.edu.au/learn/how-do-i-apply/entry-pathways

Note that some of the pathways are specific to the institution listing them. You should always check that the institution you want to go to accepts the pathway you have chosen. Other sources of information on pathways to tertiary study include:

- The QTAC Guide (distributed to Year 12 students in mid-June)

Read the latest Student Connect magazine and win an iPad Air

The Student Connect magazine is produced for Year 12 students by the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) and distributed to schools twice a year. It is also available online at http://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/9209.html. The latest issue contains information on:

- Special provision for school assessment
- Fast facts about the QCS Test and tips on how to do your best on the test and whether you need to apply for special consideration during the test
- Understanding OPs and FPs
- Key dates
- Scholarships
- Profiles and tips from Year 12 graduates.

QCAA is offering Year 12 students the chance to win one of three iPad Airs. To be in the running, you need to log on to your learning account on the Student Connect website at https://studentconnect.qcaa.qld.edu.au/ between 1 May and 31 August 2015. Find out more about this competition in the Student Connect magazine.

Which is the best university?

All Australian universities offer accredited courses that can lead to employment. Consequently, the better question is ‘Which is the best university for me?’ Consider the following when researching universities.

- Is the course offered at this university a pathway to the job I eventually want?
- Where is this university located? Can I realistically travel there? What are the transport options?
- Will the university help me gain work experience in my career area of interest while I do the course?
- How hard is it to get into this university?
- Are the courses at this university full-fee or are they subsidised by the Commonwealth Government and eligible for HECS-HELP?
- If the courses are full-fee, is the institution accredited for FEE-HELP?
- Where do students of this course at this university go after they graduate?
- What support services are available at this university?
- What co-curricular activities (sport, clubs, etc.) are available at this university?
- What is the ‘atmosphere’ or working and social environment of the university like?
- Is it important to me to go to the same university as my friends?

The following resources can help you with your research.

- **The My University website** at [http://myuniversity.gov.au/](http://myuniversity.gov.au/). This site has course and university search functions. For each university, you can find information on the number of students enrolled and the number of graduates employed.
- **Hobsons Course Finder** at [http://www.hobsonscoursefinder.com.au/](http://www.hobsonscoursefinder.com.au/). This site has a rating section for all Australian universities. The content comes from The Good Universities Guide. You can also search for courses and institutions on this site.

Other sources of information are:

- Open days – download a list of open day and career/course expo dates from the QTAC website at [http://www.qtac.edu.au/courses---institutions/open-days-expos](http://www.qtac.edu.au/courses---institutions/open-days-expos)
- University brochures – obtain these at open days, expos and university websites
- University websites
- Current students at the university (you will have access to these students at open days).
Top 10 tips for study success for high school and university students

The following tips are from the University of the Sunshine Coast.

Location, Location, Location - Are you serious about getting your study done? Find a good location. Use libraries, study rooms or empty classrooms. Have a space especially for study.

Make it a habit. Do some study every day - Cramming is not a good way to understand and retain large amounts of information. Schedule some time every day to stay on top of reading and research.

Help exists. Search for it and improve your grades - Whether you are an A student or a D student, you can strengthen your skills. Get to know your teachers and other support people and ask for help when you need it.

Write it down - Use a day planner or wall calendar. Plan time for coursework and plan ahead for assignments and exam periods.

Get energised. Eat, exercise, sleep - Fatigue and stress weaken memory and comprehension. Eat properly, exercise regularly and get adequate sleep.

Perform like a pro. Go to class prepared and take good notes - Don’t miss classes. Someone else’s notes are not going to be as good as having gone to the class yourself. While taking notes, listen for examples or emphasised points. Ask questions. Learn as you go and you won’t find yourself unprepared the night before the exam.

What’s the ‘big picture’? - Learning requires understanding of how pieces of information fit together to form a ‘big picture’. Use course outlines, tables of contents, and headings and subheadings to organise information.

Do something to remember key information - Be active! Generate examples, create reminders and prompts, make summary notes, identify key words, highlight textbooks or add margin notes. Improve your memory by being creative and interested.

Think you’ll remember key points? Prove it! - No matter how well you understand something, without practice forgetting will occur. Before a test, recall information without looking at notes or textbooks and by doing practice questions.
Be ‘test smart’ - Don’t lose marks because of test-writing errors. Use strategies to tackle different types of tests. Read instructions, budget time to marks and do less difficult questions first to build confidence.
‘The above information has been gathered from a range of sources including publicly available websites, institutional and organisational newsletters, student and career advisers and guidance officers. Every effort has been made to ensure the information provided is accurate and up-to-date at the time of publication.’

‘The Career Information Bulletin can only be distributed and used by members of the school community of the school that has purchased membership to Options Career Information. Options Career Information does not give permission for any member to pass on its resources to any other organisation.’